

REGION IX Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Guam 201 Mission Street Suite 2210 San Francisco, CA 94105-1839 415-744-3133 415-744-2726 (fax)

DEC 22 2004

Mr. Will Kempton Director Office of the Director California Department of Transportation 1120 N Street Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500

For Abhijit Bagde, Federal Programming (MS 82)

Dear Mr. Kempton:

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 1 for the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) submitted with your letter dated November 15, 2004. This amendment reprograms Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program funds for the South Coast Transit Priorities program and operating assistance for the Santa Ynez Valley Regional Transit Service, to provide capital and operating assistance for the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District into the Interim FSTIP.

We accept this Amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that this FSTIP amendment was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303. The changes made to the program by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed (40 CFR Sections 93.126 and/or 93.127).

This letter also constitutes approval, and inclusion of SBCAG's Amendment No. 1 into California's 2004/2005 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program with the understanding that FTA funding approval of projects is subject to the grantees meeting the necessary administrative requirements.

Sincerely,

/Leslie T. Rogers \ \ \ Regional Administrator cc: Ms. Grace Balmir, Los Angeles Metro Office Mr. Abhijit Badge, Caltrans HQ